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# Royal Geographical Society.

1842.

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## REPORT OF THE COUNCIL.

THE Council announce that, since the last Anniversary Meeting of the Society, 18 new Members have been elected, and 33 vacancies have occurred,—of which, 11 by death; 9 have resigned; and 13 have been struck off from the list in consequence of their having ceased for several years to pay their annual contributions.

The Society now consists of 658 Members, exclusive of 63 foreign Honorary and Corresponding Members. One foreign Corresponding Member, Colonel Count Karaczay, of Mantua, has been elected in place of General Campana, whose death the Council regret to announce; as also that of Admiral Dumont d'Urville, one of our foreign Honorary Members.

*Finances.*—The Society will observe, on inspecting the Treasurer's Annual Report, certified by the Auditors, that, in addition to the ordinary expenditure of the past year, amounting to the sum of 1656*l.* 4*s.* 9*d.*, there has been a further outlay of 692*l.* 15*s.* 9*d.*, to liquidate outstanding debts incurred in former years; and, in providing this sum, it was thought expedient to sell 1000*l.* Stock, part of the proceeds of which have been applied to these payments, and the rest is apparent in the balance in the banker's hands at the end of the year.

This additional call on the Society's funds has been occasioned partly by the difficulty of getting in some outstanding bills of former years, which had been repeatedly called for, and in part by the expense attending the removal into the new house in Waterloo Place, the fittings for books and maps, and by the unexpected demands made upon the Society to meet the expenses

of the Kurdistán expedition. The Council have now, however, the satisfaction to announce that there is no outstanding demand against the Society beyond the current expenses.

*Money Grants.*—The Council, having taken into consideration the services already performed and still likely to be rendered to geographical science by the zealous explorations of Dr. Beke in Africa, have voted him the sum of 100*l.*, to enable him to prosecute his useful labours.

*Arrears.*—The arrears due to the Society may be now estimated at 235*l.*, the greater part of which will, it is hoped, be recovered by degrees: 105*l.* of this sum are due from Members abroad.

*Her Majesty's Donation.*—Of the two gold medals to which Her Majesty's gracious donation is appropriated, that called the "Founder's Medal" has this year been awarded to Capt. J. C. Ross, R.N., for his brilliant achievement at the South Pole, to within less than 12° of which he has safely navigated his vessels the "Erebus" and "Terror," discovering at the same time a great Antarctic continent: and the "Patron's Medal" has been awarded to Dr. E. Robinson, of New York, for his very valuable work entitled "Biblical Researches in Palestine, Mount Sinai, and Arabia."

*Publications.*—In consequence of the great expenses incurred by the publication of three Parts of the Journal in each year—and which, being delivered *gratis* to the Members of the Society, have been in fact a full return of one-half of their annual subscription—the Council feel that it will be incumbent upon them hereafter to revert to the former practice of issuing two Parts only in the course of each year; for the regular appearance of which the Council have made the necessary arrangements; and, by a judicious condensation of the matter each Part will contain, they hope that the value of the Journal, and the mass of geographical information comprised in each yearly volume, will in no degree be diminished.

*Library.*—The accessions to the library since the last year consist of 360 volumes, and 542 maps and charts, among which are some very valuable donations—such as a selection, consisting of 392 sheets, from the great Catastral Survey of Bavaria, with several folios of astronomical, geodesical, and statistical data; presented to the Society by the munificence of His Majesty the King of Bavaria, and obligingly and judiciously selected by the Director of the Cataster, M. von Flg: The “*Voyage autour du Monde, de l’Astrolabe,*” under the command of Captain Dumont D’Urville, 22 vols. 8vo., with 4 parts of Observations, and 500 beautiful plates: Colonel Codazzi’s Map and Atlas of Venezuela, with 4 vols. of the History, Statistics, and Geography of that Country: and several beautiful and rare works on Geography and Travels, presented by Mr. Trevelyan, &c.

It is with feelings of peculiar gratification that the Council are able to close their Report by announcing the very handsome donation of 50*l.*, made by James Alexander, Esq., of Summer Hill, for the increase of the library.

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ESTIMATE FOR 1842.

*Dr.*

*Cr.*

	£.	s.	d.		£.	s.	d.
Balance in hand (1st January, 1842)	.	.	241 7 5	Rent and Fixtures	.	.	263 13 0
Probable Amount of Subscriptions, viz.—				Salaries and wages	.	.	447 0 0
Entrance of 30 Members at 3 <i>l</i> .	.	.	90 0 0	Office Expenses, including Firing, Lights, Meetings, Stationery, Postage, Carriage of Parcels, &c.	.	.	100 0 0
Composition of 15 ditto at 17 <i>l</i> .	.	.	255 0 0	Insurance	.	.	2 15 0
Subscription of 300 ditto at 2 <i>l</i> .	.	.	600 0 0	Furniture and Fittings	.	.	10 0 0
Arrears likely to be recovered	.	.	50 0 0	Journal	.	.	500 0 0
Dividends on 3150 <i>l</i> . (3½ per Cents. Reduced)	.	.	110 5 0	Miscellaneous Printing	.	.	10 0 0
Royal Premium	.	.	52 0 0	Books, Bindings, &c.	.	.	80 0 0
Mr. Alexander's Donation	.	.	50 0 0	Royal Premium	.	.	46 0 0
Sale of Journal	.	.	150 0 0	Grant to Dr. Beke	.	.	100 0 0
				Sundries	.	.	10 0 0
							£1,569 8 0

J. R. JACKSON,  
*Secretary.*